CSC148 *Intro. to Computer Science*

Lecture 10: *BST Recursive Delete, Efficiency of Algorithms*

Amir H. Chinaei, Winter 2016

Office Hours: W 16:00–17:45 BA4222

ahchinaei@cs.toronto.edu
http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~ahchinaei/

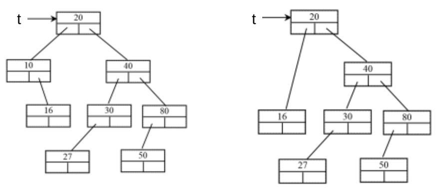
Course webpage:
http://www.cdf.toronto.edu/~csc148h/winter

Last week

- BST
  - Insert (and trace)
  - Iterative delete
- Today
  - More on BST
    - Recursive delete
  - Efficiency

bst_del_rec

- Let's define it as deleting a node (if exists) from the BST and returning the resulting BST
- Example:
  - t = bst_del_rec (t, 10)
  - deletes 10 from BST t and returns the reference to the tree



bst_del_rec(tree, data)

- **Base case**
  - If the tree is none return none

```
if not tree:
    return None
```

- **Recursive case I**
  - If data is less than tree data, delete it from left child

```
if data < tree.data:
    tree.left = bst_del_rec(tree.left, data)
```

- **Recursive case II**

```
if data > tree.data:
    tree.right = bst_del_rec(tree.right, data)
```


bst_del_rec(tree, data)

- What does it mean if none of the above if's have been true?
  - **We have located the tree node to be deleted**
- What next?
- There are two cases to consider …
- **Case I:**
  - If the tree node does not have a left child,
    - return the right child

```
if tree.left is None:
    return tree.right
```


bst_del_rec

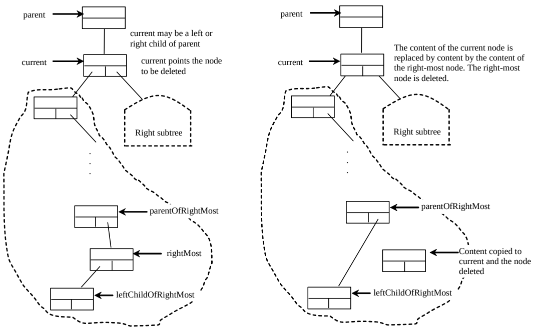
- Recall examples for case I:

bst_del_rec(tree, data)

- **Case II:**
  - If the tree node does have a left child,
    - find the largest node of the left child
    - replace the tree node data with the largest just found
    - delete the largest

```
if tree.left is not None:
    largest = findmax(tree.left)
    tree.data = largest.data
    tree.left = bst_del_rec(tree.left,largest.data)
    return tree
```


Case 2 (diagram)



bst_del_rec

- Recall examples for case II:

bst_del_rec(tree, data)

```
#putting everything together

# base case
if not tree:
    return None
# recursive case I
elif data < tree.data:
    tree.left = bst_del_rec(tree.left, data)
# recursive case II
elif data > tree.data:
    tree.right = bst_del_rec(tree.right, data)
# left child is empty
elif tree.left is None:
    return tree.right
# left child is not empty
else:
    largest = findmax(tree.left)
    tree.data = largest.data
    tree.left = bst_del_rec(tree.left,largest.data)
    return tree

# helper
def findmax(tree):
    return tree if not tree.right else findmax(tree.right)
```


Efficiency of algorithms

- BST: iterative delete vs. recursive delete?
  - Extra memory?
    - Constant vs. in order of height of tree
    - O(1) vs. O(lg n) if balanced or O(n) otherwise
  - Time?
    - Although both in order of height of tree, the latter requires more work
- **Fibonacci:** iteration vs. recursion?
  - Extra memory?
    - O(1) vs. O(n)
  - Time?
    - O(n) vs. O(2^n) !!

Efficiency of algorithms

n	$\log n$	n	$n \log n$	n^2	2^n	$n!$
10	3×10^{-11} s	10^{-10} s	3×10^{-10} s	10^{-9} s	10^{-8} s	3×10^{-7} s
10^2	7×10^{-11} s	10^{-9} s	7×10^{-9} s	10^{-7} s	4×10^{11} yr	*
10^3	1.0×10^{-10} s	10^{-8} s	1×10^{-7} s	10^{-5} s	*	*
10^4	1.3×10^{-10} s	10^{-7} s	1×10^{-6} s	10^{-3} s	*	*
10^5	1.7×10^{-10} s	10^{-6} s	2×10^{-5} s	0.1 s	*	*
10^6	2×10^{-10} s	10^{-5} s	2×10^{-4} s	0.17 min	*	*

Recursive vs iterative

- Recursive functions impose a loop
- The loop is implicit and the compiler/interpreter (here, Python) takes care of it
- This comes at a price: time & memory
- The price may be negligible in many cases

- After all, no recursive function is more efficient than its iterative equivalent

Recursive vs iterative cont'ed

- Every recursive function can be written iteratively (by explicit loops)
  - may require stacks too
- yet, when the nature of a problem is recursive, writing it iteratively can be
  - time consuming, and
  - less readable

- So, recursion is a very powerful technique for problems that are naturally recursive